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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/652,868	08/29/2003	Yousef M. Jarrah	8540G-000214	1008
27572	7590	02/14/2007	EXAMINER	
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. BOX 828 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303			WIEHE, NATHANIEL EDWARD	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3745		
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	02/14/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/652,868 Examiner Nathan Wiehe	JARRAH, YOUSEF M. Art Unit 3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-4 and 11-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4 and 11-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see page 5, filed 5 January 2007, with respect to 1-6,11-15 and 20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection under 112 of claims 1-6,11-15 and 20 has been withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments, see page 6-8, filed 5 January 2007, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-4 and 11-13 under 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Banyay (4,708,593).

Claim Objections

Claims 3 and 13 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The claims include the limitation "a blade angle of said leading edge is generally determined by output requirements of the compressor". The use of the term "generally determined" is not inclusive and therefore does not exclude blade angles not determined by the output requirements, thus the claim does not require any limitations be added beyond those of the previous claim. It is further noted that the limitation does not add any additional structure to the device.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choi et al. (6,499,955), hereinafter "Choi", in view of Banyay (4,708,593). Choi discloses a compressor including a vaneless diffuser (12), a volute (14) in communication with the diffuser and a radial impeller (4) operable to compress a fluid stream and direct said stream to the volute. The impeller further includes a hub (4a) with an axis of rotation and a plurality of blades (4b) extending from the hub. The blades include a leading edge proximate the hub and a trailing edge proximate the volute. Applicant claims that a blade surface is defined by a polar angle as a function of the radius that appear to form a generally spiral shaped blade surface and since applicant has not further specified or defined the surface, the spirally oriented blades of Choi met the claim limitation. Also, Choi's impeller includes an inducer formed proximate the leading edge of the blades. Choi does not disclose the use of an inducer with a height between five to seven percent of the impeller outer diameter. Banyay discloses a centrifugal compressor impeller (10) including inducer elements (50-72) attached to the leading edges of the blades (20-42). Banyay's inducer provides for improved surge prevention during periods of reduced flow (Banyay column 2, lines 38-

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42). Also, Banyay discloses dimensions of the inducer elements and the impeller diameter, $\frac{3}{4}$ " and $11 \frac{3}{4}$ ", respectively. These dimensions yield an inducer height to impeller diameter ratio of 6.383%. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the impeller of Choi by including an inducer having the configuration and proportions as taught by Banyay for the purpose of improving surge prevention at reduced flow.

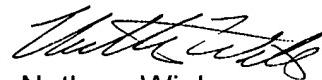
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan Wiehe whose telephone number is (571)272-8648. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thur. and alternate Fri., 7am-4:30pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look can be reached on (571)272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Nathan Wiehe
Examiner
Art Unit 3745



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2/2/07